

**Important Information**  
About Drug Coverage  
For Nursing Facilities \* Residents on Medicare

While you live in a nursing facility you can enroll in, or change, Medicare drug plans at **ANY TIME**. You can enroll without penalty if you haven't had drug coverage. You should consider reviewing your drug coverage when:

***When You Are Admitted to the Nursing Home:***

- It is a good idea to review your Medicare drug plan to be sure that it is accepted by the nursing home's pharmacy and covers any new drugs you are taking.

***Anytime Your Drugs Change:***

- You should compare Medicare drug plans to see if your current plan is still the best for you.

***At Year End:***

- After October 15<sup>th</sup> you should compare Medicare drug plans for the NEXT year because the plans can change the drugs they cover and your costs from year to year.

***If You Become Eligible for Medicaid:***

- You will qualify for \$0 co-payments for drugs covered by your Medicare drug plan and a lower premium.
- Your employer drug plan, if you have one, needs to be evaluated immediately. It may be to your advantage to switch to a Medicare drug plan to receive the benefit of \$0 co-payments and a lower premium.

***If You Leave the Nursing Home:***

- You have another opportunity to change Medicare drug plans. You should evaluate your plan to be sure it is accepted by your local pharmacy.

***Who Can Help?***

The Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP), a service of the State of Iowa, can help you compare drug plans, enroll in a new drug plan and evaluate your drug plan when you qualify for Medicaid. SHIIP's services are free, confidential and objective. To contact SHIIP:

**Call: 1-800-351-4664**  
**(TTY 1-800-735-2942)**

**E-mail: [shiip@iid.iowa.gov](mailto:shiip@iid.iowa.gov)**



\* This does not include assisted living facilities or residential homes.